TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND Bill Moyers + ???

A To talk to you.

B Thank you boy. If I can help in any way I will. I'm calling with a suggestion. I've just talked to Nick Katzenbach.

A Yes.

B And the poor fellow. He has so much of a burden on him. I talked to him about three times today. And he just sounded so groggy. I just thought I would pass this along to you. Of course I realize how tough it must be now that the President In this situation with my suggestion is that a Presidential Commission be appointed of very distinugished citizens in the very near future. Bi-partisan and above politics; no Supreme Court Justices but people like Tom Dooley, you know, Bill Storey from Texas, etc. A commission of seven or nine people, maybe Nixon, I don't know, to look into the whole affair of the murder of the President. Because world opinion and American opinion is just now so shaken by the behavior of the Dallas police that they are not believing anything.

B I can understand that.

B Now I've got a party here. We've been pursuing the policy that people need to come together at this time.

A You know what you could do that would be very helpful and this is a good suggestion and I will pass it on. Just a minute the President is calling.
Excuse me, go ahead.

N
B Sure Bill. what can I do that will help?

A Well I was just thinking coming in a few minttes ago after hearing the news of Oswald's shooting that this is symptomatic of what has been happening in this country in the last few years and the background of respect for law and order you know there are signs "impeach the Supreme Court, etc, etc" If I could have a memorandum to give to the President along these lines that one of his great tasks is to help you know continue the institutions that seem to be at least if not in doubt right now, at least weakened by some kind of sickness that is taking hold of some parts of our population I'd like him to have that to consider in some private talks he is having with newsmen and with perhaps during his joint session next Wednesday night he needs to make some point you know that America is known as a land of public order, a land of savility, a land is which the public safety is guaranteed

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and — and there is a very serious question right now in the mind of the world about these institutions that undergird us so tremendously

B — His Gettysburg speech last Spring was just teriffic.

A — Yes.

B — I will be glad to send any messages I can to be helpful right away.

A — All right. Now your suggestion is that he appoint a special commission of distinguished American primarily in the field of law, I presume, to look into the whole question of the assassination.

B — That's right.

A — I wish you would keep me informed about how Nick is doing. We don't want to put any greater strain on him than is necessary. But he is an able man.

B — Well he's a great boy and I have the utmost faith in him.

A — Yes.

B — But he's fighting back.

A — Right. Thanks for calling. I'll follow through. Goodbye.

B — Goodbye.

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Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President and Bill Moyers???, no date

While processing the telephone transcripts, the archives staff observed that the conversation is a draft of a conversation between Bill Moyers and Dean Eugene Rostow on November 24, 1963.

The draft had been filed with the December 1963 conversations, and the archives staff refiled it with the completed transcript in the November 1963 folder.

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

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